

## CHAPTER 7

### SECTION 6.1

# TRICARE FOR LIFE

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Authority:

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#### I. DESCRIPTION

Pursuant to Section 712 of the FY 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, Medicare eligible beneficiaries based on age, whose TRICARE eligibility is determined by 10 U.S.C. Section 1086, are eligible for Medicare Part A, and are enrolled in Medicare Part B, are eligible for the TRICARE benefit effective October 1, 2001.

#### II. POLICY

##### A. Introduction:

Section 712 extends TRICARE eligibility to persons who would otherwise have lost their TRICARE eligibility due to attainment of entitlement to hospital insurance benefits under Part A of Medicare based on age. In order for these individuals to retain their TRICARE eligibility, they must be enrolled in the supplementary medical insurance program under Part B of Medicare. In general, in the case of medical or dental care provided to these individuals for which payment may be made under both Medicare and TRICARE, Medicare is the primary payer and TRICARE will normally pay the actual out-of-pocket costs incurred by the person.

##### B. Eligibility:

The contractors shall determine from the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) if the individual is eligible for the TRICARE benefit.

C. Beneficiaries are not eligible to enroll in TRICARE Prime. See the [OPM, Chapter 6, Section 5](#).

D. Claims will be reimbursed with the applicable reimbursement sections of the Policy and Operations Manuals.

E. Appeal rights are covered in the [OPM, Chapter 13, Section 1](#).

F. The contractor shall educate beneficiaries about this benefit as identified by the Government.

G. TMA will supply a listing of beneficiary addresses (obtained from the Defense Manpower Data Center DEERS Support Office) to the contractor no later than May 4th, 2001. During the initial program implementation, the Government shall provide the educational material in camera-ready format, to the contractor, for the contractor to produce and distribute. The material will be a brochure and will share the look and feel of the current TRICARE family of marketing products, using four colors, and shall include appropriate artwork and photographs. The contractor shall enhance its ongoing marketing, customer, public and provider relations programs to include information on the TRICARE For Life program targeting eligible beneficiary populations. The marketing program shall be conducted in accordance with currently approved MCSC marketing programs. The MCSC shall print and mail to each eligible household the education brochure, two OHI questionnaires, a cover letter explaining the questionnaire, two information cards and the benefit comparison matrix. All proposed marketing and outreach materials, whether intended for use in the initial or subsequent marketing campaigns or for other purposes, shall be forwarded to the COR for review and approval by TMA's Office of Communications and Customer Service. The Government will review and provide comments/approval within 14 calendar days. The contractor shall not release mass communication materials without prior review and approval by the Government. The contractor shall use TMA's Office of Communications and Customer Services's available communications methodologies as a resource for creating marketing and outreach materials. These communication methodologies include: press releases, information posted to the TRICARE website, standardized briefings, and media interviews.

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